

Message Text

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ORIGIN ARA-14

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INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02
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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 270157

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SHUM, AR

SUBJECT: DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER ALLARA MEETING WITH
ASSISTANT SECRETARY TODMAN

1. ARGENTINE DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER GUALTER ALLARA,
ACCOMPANIED BY AMBASSADOR AJA ESPIL AND MINISTERS JUAN
CARLOS ARLIA AND MIGUEL ANGEL ESPECHE GIL CALLED ON
ASSISTANT SECRETARY TODMAN ON NOVEMBER 4, 1977. AMBASSADOR
CASTRO, DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY MCNEIL, COUNTRY DIRECTOR
ZIMMERMANN AND DESK OFFICER BUMPUS ALSO ATTENDED.

2. AT ALLARA'S REQUEST, HE MET PRIVATELY WITH ASSISTANT
SECRETARY TODMAN FOR FIFTEEN MINUTES BEFORE THE GENERAL
CONVERSATION BEGAN. DURING THIS PRIVATE MEETING ALLARA
ASKED FOR THE U. S. TO CONSIDER THE FOLLOWING POINTS TO BE
TAKEN UP DURING THE SECRETARY'S VISIT:

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A. A JOINT COMMUNIQUE: THE ARGENTINES RECOGNIZE THE U. S.
GENERALLY DOES NOT FAVOR JOINT COMMUNIQUE BUT FEEL THE
VISIT SHOULD BE HIGHLIGHTED BY A JOINT STATEMENT. IT
SHOULD STRESS THE WILLINGNESS OF THE TWO COUNTRIES TO
COOPERATE TO SOLVE COMMON PROBLEMS.

B. DISCUSSION ON TERRORISM: ALLARA POINTED OUT THAT

THERE IS A GROWING WORLDWIDE CONSENSUS THAT TERRORISM IS A VIOLATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND THAT SOMETHING SHOULD BE DONE ABOUT IT NOW. WE SHOULD CONSIDER WAYS IN WHICH THE TWO QUESTIONS, HUMAN RIGHTS AND TERRORISM, CAN BE JOINTLY DISCUSSED.

C. CLARIFICATION OF U. S. POSITION ON IFIS AND HUMAN RIGHTS IN ARGENTINA: IN JUNE, THE U. S. ABSTAINED BUT EXPLAINED ITS VOTE ON AN ARGENTINE LOAN IN THE IBRD, STRESSING IMPROVEMENT IN THE HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION IN ARGENTINA. YET, IN OCTOBER THE U. S. VOTED NO ON ARGENTINE IDB LOAN REQUEST IN THE FACE OF GREATER IMPROVEMENT IN THE HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION. THIS IS DIFFICULT TO UNDERSTAND; ARGENTINA WOULD LIKE US TO EXPLAIN OUR VIEWS AND INTENTIONS ON HUMAN RIGHTS. AMBASSADOR TODMAN EXPLAINED OUR CRITERIA OF VOTING YES ON LOANS FOR THE NEEDY, BUT WARNED THAT OTHER ARGENTINE LOANS IN THE IFIS COULD FACE PROBLEMS.

D. MILITARY SALES: MANY ARGENTINES FAVOR CONTINUING PURCHASES OF U.S. MILITARY EQUIPMENT BUT THERE ARE OTHERS WHO ARE SERIOUSLY CONSIDERING PURCHASING MILITARY EQUIPMENT FROM OTHER SOURCES IF THE U. S. IS UNWILLING TO SUPPLY IT. THIS QUESTION IS CREATING DIVISIONS WITHIN THE ARGENTINE MILITARY, AND THEY WISH TO KNOW WHAT CRITERIA THE U. S. WILL APPLY TO MILITARY SALES TO ARGENTINA.
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E. MALVINAS: ALLARA STATED THAT ARGENTINA WAS CONCERNED THAT AN INCIDENT COULD DEVELOP. THERE IS ANOTHER MEETING WITH THE BRITISH IN DECEMBER, AND THEY WANT US TO PUT PRESSURE ON THE U.K. TO NEGOTIATE IN GOOD FAITH AS THE U. S. DID WITH PANAMA ON THE CANAL.

3. DURING THE GENERAL DISCUSSION, THE PRINCIPLE TOPIC WAS THE SECRETARY'S VISIT AND THE ITEMS HE WOULD DISCUSS WHILE IN ARGENTINA. ALLARA SUGGESTED AN AGENDA WHICH WOULD INCLUDE:

- A. HUMAN RIGHTS
- B. TERRORISM
- C. NUCLEAR COOPERATION
- D. U. S. COOPERATION ON TECHNOLOGICAL TRANSFERS AMONG LDCS
- E. MIXED ARGENTINE-U.S. ECONOMIC COMMISSION
- F. BILATERAL COOPERATION ON MALNUTRITION (ALLARA SUGGESTED ESTABLISHMENT OF A BILATERAL COMMISSION)
- G. COOPERATION ON THE SUPPRESSION OF THE DRUG TRAFFIC

4. SECRETARY TODMAN SAID THESE SEEMED LIKE VALID TOPICS AND SUGGESTED THAT THE U. S. WOULD WISH TO INCLUDE AN AGENDA ITEM ON NORTH/SOUTH COOPERATION. THIS SHOULD BE ESPECIALLY CONCENTRATED ON ECONOMIC AREAS WHERE WE CAN COOPERATE. MINISTER ARLIA SAID THIS WAS AN EXCELLENT SUGGESTION. ARGENTINA WAS A "MIDDLE STAGE" COUNTRY AND COULD SERVE AS A BRIDGE BETWEEN THE DEVELOPED AND DEVELOPING COUNTRIES.

5. AMBASSADOR TODMAN ASSURED THE ARGENTINES THAT WE WOULD DO WHAT WE COULD TO MAKE THE VISIT MEANINGFUL AND SUCCESSFUL. VANCE

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